Thematic Unit: Friendship
Designs of Drama Key Terms

Drama- Drama is the specific mode of fiction represented in performance

Act- A major division of a drama

Scene- A division of an act into smaller parts

Line- The words making up a part in a drama —usually used in plural

Plot- The sequence of events in a story.

Exposition- The background of a play usually presented at the beginning in order to understand the story properly.

Rising Action- The events in a conflict that lead to a climax.

Climax- The point where forces in conflict meet; turning point.

Falling Action- The conflict between the protagonist and the antagonist unravels, with the protagonist winning or losing against the antagonist; events that occur after the climax has been reached.

Dénouement- When the falling action unwinds to conclusion—all ends are tied; another word for the resolution

Monologue- A (usually long) dramatic speech by a single actor

Soliloquy- A character speaks alone on stage to allow his/her thoughts and ideas to be conveyed to the audience

Dialogue- the lines spoken by the characters to other characters

Stage Directions- Written instructions in the script of a drama given to the director, actors, crew, etc.

Prop- Short for "properties,"--the pictures, furnishings, historical nuances, and so on, that provide the stage’s background

Cast- A group of performers

Aside- A line spoken by an actor to the audience but not intended for others on the stage

Theme- The central idea of a work of literature
**Tragedy** - a type of serious drama that usually ends in disaster for the main character

**Foreshadowing** - the use of hints or clues to suggest what will happen next

**Flat Character** - A one-dimensional, showing a single personality trait

**Round Character** - A character who shows many different traits

**Antagonist** - The most prominent of the characters who go against the protagonist or hero(ine)

**Protagonist** - the central character in a story

**Conflict** - A clash of actions, desires, ideas, or goals in the plot of a story.

**Narrator** - The teller of a story